

Applicant: Granger
Serial No.: 09/966,028

Attorney Ref.: 1759.053

Remarks

By the above Amendments, the Patent Owner has replaced pending claims 16 through 33 with amended claims 16 through 33. Claims 16 through 33 are pending in this application. Entry of these Amendments, reconsideration of the claims presented in this Office Action, and allowance of the claims now pending are respectfully requested. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.530(j), the scope of the claims in the subject patent was not enlarged, no new matter was introduced, and no amendments were made to overcome any prior art.

The Applicant recognizes with appreciation Examiner Dexter's assistance in advancing this application to allowance by providing many helpful suggestions for amending the claims.

Response to Comments in Office Action

In paragraphs 2 on pages 2 of the Action, the Patent Office objected to certain wording in claims 16-32. The Applicant believes that the above Amendment overcomes these objections.

In paragraphs 3 on pages 3 and 4 of the Action, the Patent Office rejected claims 16 through 33 pursuant to the second paragraph of 35 USC §112. The Applicant believes that the claims introduced in the above Amendment overcome these rejections.

In the second paragraph on page 4 of the Action, with respect to claim 28, line 2, the Patent Office deemed the word "reel" vague and implied that some form of correction be made. However, the Applicant respectfully submits that the term "reel" in

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the context of the present Specification is quite precise in its meaning with respect to the claimed invention. The term is used in several places in the Specification, including at least in lines 4-6 on page 1, lines 30-32 on page 1, and in lines 32-35 on page 5 of the Specification. These passages clearly recite "a reel for holding paper strip" as recited in claim 28. The Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

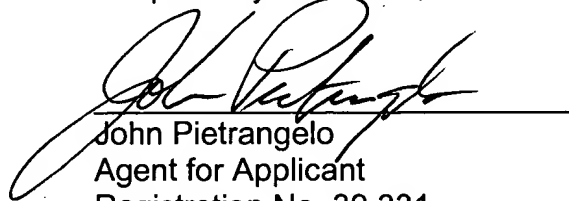
The Applicant believes that amended claims 16-33 are presented in allowable form. The Applicant respectfully requests that these claims be allowed and advanced to issue.

Request for Interview

Again, if the Patent Office is still of the opinion that the subject matter of the pending claims does not constitute patentable subject matter, the Applicant requests an interview with the Examiner pursuant to section 706.07(b) of the MPEP.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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